

REMARKS

Claims in the case are 1 to 12. Claims 2 to 12 have been amended herein.

Claims 2 to 12 of the above-identified patent application have been amended as to form, for example, replacing "characterized in that" with --wherein--, and converting multi-dependent claims to dependent claims. The patent application has also been amended to include an abstract on a separate page, which is included herewith. The amendments presented herein do not represent the entry of new matter into the application. Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSIONS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION: (Marked-Up)

The following is a version of the title at the top of page 1, with markings to show changes made thereto in the present Preliminary Amendment.

[High-gloss, flexible multilayer film having a polyamide outer layer containing nanodisperse filler and its use for packaging foodstuffs]

HIGH LUSTER, FLEXIBLE MULTILAYERED FILM WITH A POLYAMIDE OUTER LAYER CONTAINING NANODISPERSED FILLING MATERIAL AND UTILIZATION OF SAID FILM FOR PACKAGING FOODSTUFFS

IN THE CLAIMS: (Marked-Up)

The following are versions of the amended claims with markings to show changes made thereto in the present Preliminary Amendment.

2. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [M]multilayer film [according to] of Claim 1[, characterized in that] wherein the proportion by weight of the particles dispersed in the outer layer, relative to the total weight of the composition forming the outer layer, is between 0.1 and 3 wt. %.[.]

3. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [M]multilayer film [according to] of Claim 1 [or 2, characterized in that,] wherein in addition to polyamide 6, the outer layer contains a polyamide selected from the group comprising polyamide 6, polyamide 10, polyamide 12, polyamide 66, polyamide 610, polyamide 6I, polyamide 612, polyamide 6/66, polyamide 6I/6T, polyamide MXD6, polyamide 6/6I, polyamide 6/6T, polyamide 6/IPDI, copolymers of monomers forming said polymers or mixtures of said polymers or copolymers.

4. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [M]multilayer film [according to one] of Claim[s] 1 [to 3, characterized in that] wherein the particles dispersed in the outer layer comprise particles that have, in two mutually perpendicular directions that can

be arbitrarily chosen for each particle, a dimension in each case of at least a tenth of the dimension of the particles in the direction with the smallest dimension.

5. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [M]multilayer film [according to one] of Claim[s] 1 [to 4, characterized in that] wherein the particles dispersed in the outer layer are sheet silicates.

6. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [M]multilayer film [according to one] of Claim[s] 1 [to 5, characterized in that it] wherein said multilayer film contains one or more EVOH-containing layers.

7. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [M]multilayer film [according to one] of Claim[s] 1 [to 6, characterized in that it] wherein said multilayer film has an at least monolayer heat-sealable coating on that side of the multilayer film remote from the outer layer.

8. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [M]multilayer film [according to one] of Claim[s] 1 [to 7, characterized in that it] wherein said multilayer film contains one or more coupling layers.

9. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [M]multilayer film [according to one] of Claim[s] 1 [to 8, characterized in that,] wherein in addition to the outer layer and one or more further layers composed of polyamide and, optionally, conventional additives and also, optionally, one or more EVOH-containing layers, one or more heat-sealable coatings and also one or more coupling layers, [it] said multilayer film additionally contains one or more further polymeric layers or a layer of a metal oxide or nonmetal oxide between two inner layers.

10. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [M]multilayer film [according to one] of Claim[s] 1 [to 9, characterized in that] wherein at least one outer layer, optionally

also a plurality of or all the layers are subjected after extrusion to a stretching operation selected from: stretching only in the longitudinal direction[,]; stretching only in the transverse direction[,]; stretching first in the longitudinal direction and then in the transverse direction[,]; stretching simultaneously in the longitudinal direction and transverse direction; [or] and combinations thereof.

11. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [M]multilayer film [according to one] of Claim[s] 1 [to 10, characterized in that it] wherein said multilayer film is produced as a blown film by coextrusion.

12. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) [Use of a] A method of using the multilayer film [according to one] of Claim[s] 1 [to 13] for packaging foodstuffs.